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CBS-TV Network

Washington, D. C.

Youth Wants to Know-12:00 P.M.

Guest: Senator Wayne Morse, Democrat, Oregon.  
Moderator: Julian Barber.  
Panel of young people

THE PARTICIPANTS WERE SEEN ON THE TELEVISION  
SCREEN, SEATED AROUND A TABLE IN THE STUDIO.

QUESTION: "Senator Morse, was the State Department justified in keeping quiet about the recent military coup in Korea?"

MORSE: "I think they were completely unjustified. I think it's the most regrettable thing, because I would have the State Department keep in mind the fact that foreign policy doesn't belong to the State Department or to the President. Foreign policy under our Constitution belongs to the American people. And the President and the State Department are but the administrators of a people's foreign policy. And if I say nothing on this program that I want you to remember, I want you to remember this--that in this country it is of the greatest importance that we return to open covenants, openly arrived at, which means that the administration has a duty to keep the American people informed about our foreign policy.

"They didn't do it in the Cuban situation, and as a result a great deal of harm has been done to our country, not only throughout Latin America, but throughout the world."

QUESTION: "Senator, do you feel that the delay in the State Department's comment on the Korean situation indicates another failure in CIA?"

MORSE: "No, I don't have the facts on that, so I can't speak on what it really implies, but I don't know why anybody should be surprised about what's happening in Korea. Korea has been a trouble spot for quite some time. And I hope that we can some way, somehow get some democratic processes re-established in Korea."

QUESTION: "Senator, do you agree with Senator Symington's recent statement when he said, 'I believe that the American people ought to know every bit of information that would not be beneficial to a forceful enemy?'"

MORSE: "I've said that for a very long time. I think that the American people have the right to know every bit of information about their foreign policy that wouldn't really violate security. And let me tell you there is a lot of difference between the label top secret placed upon some document by the State Department or the Pentagon building, and actual top secret material. Very often, may I say, as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I find information is labelled top secret when there is no reason in the world why the American people shouldn't know about it."

QUESTION: "Senator, you're in charge of a rather important Foreign Relations Committee. How much of this stuff--classified material--could you actually tell us about--what you say is top secret, but could be unclassified?"

...very difficult to put any percentage figure on it. All I would say is that a great deal of material is being kept from the American people that ought to be made available to them. Not only in regard to the Latin American problems, but the problems elsewhere in the world."

QUESTION: "Senator, how much has Vice-President Johnson's goodwill tour to the Far East strengthened our position there?"

MORSE: "Well it's too early to tell. I think it was a very fine idea to have him make the trip, and I hope that as a result of the trip there will be a better understanding over American foreign policies in the Far East. I want to say that the more contacts of that type we have, in my judgment, the better. And of course Vice-President Johnson, just as President Kennedy, are two wonderful ambassadors, really, when they do go abroad, presenting the American point of view."

QUESTION: "Senator, on the domestic scene, do you favor a change in Rule 22?"

MORSE: "Oh I have fought for a long time for a change in Rule 22. I have offered, year after year, the Morse anti-filibuster proposal which would establish majority rule in the Senate. And why not? Can you give me any reason why after there has been adequate time for debate that protects the minority, the people of this country shouldn't have the right to have their legislators work on the basis of a majority rule principle. The idea of minority control of the Senate of the United States, and that's what you've got now--the Senate is run by the minority, really. You see it happen time and time again. There must be an end to minority rule in the Senate, and the only way you can do it is to change Rule 22 by establishing the majority rule principle."